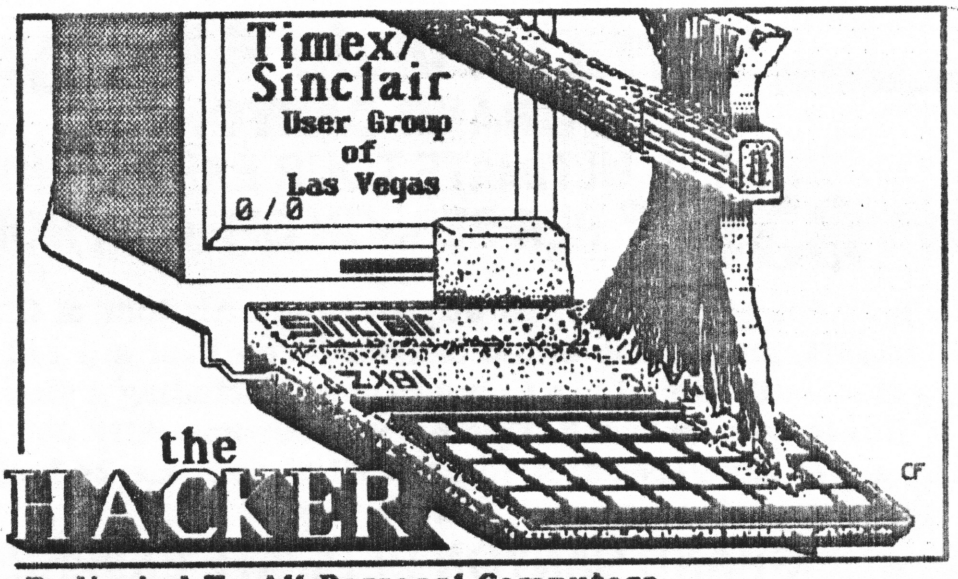

the HACKER

Newsletter Dedicated To All Personal Computers

"the HACKER" is an official publication of the Timex/Sinclair User Group of Las Vegas-a non profit, educational organization. Subscription to the "HACKER" is $15.00 per year (12 issues) and includes membership to TSUG of LV. Please remit to:

Ralph Hammer(treasurer)
2105 Oakwood Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89030

MEMO

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Jan. 20, 1991-------1-3 pm.
PC SIG----------3-4 pm.
the public is WELCOME

CONTRIBUTING STAFF:
STEVE SAWCHUK------EDITOR IN CHIEF
RALPH HAMMER-------CO-EDITOR
CHRIS FENN---------- ART DIRECTOR
DAWN SAWCHUK-----MAILING DIR.

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1991 NOT TOO GOOD FOR USER GROUPS

Well, just as I said. The groups around the nation are not sticking together as far as supporting the Sinclair family of computers. The latest to fall-by-the-wayside is the only group left in the Southern Califorina, the South Bay Computer Club Timex/Sinclair Users Group. They have decided to cease the publication of the newsletter and meet on a bi-monthly basis and shift their interests to IBM usage.

The South Bay club is not the first nor the last to change the format of the group. The interests of the members change, so goes the groups. It's sad to see these things happen, but lets all wake up and smell the burnt toast.

Lets not see any more groups cease production of their newsletters within the coming months and surely not let us see any more groups fall. If your group is deciding to fold, start up a SEG group (Special Education Group) and help each other out DON'T JUST GIVE UP.

Sierra Nevada Airways SNA

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WELL KNOWN T/S USER PASSES AWAY

The Hacker was saddened to learn of the passing of one of the most respected users in the Sinclair community. On Nov. 1st, **Mr Warren Fricke** passed away. Warren has written many programs for the 2068 as well as the other T/S computers.

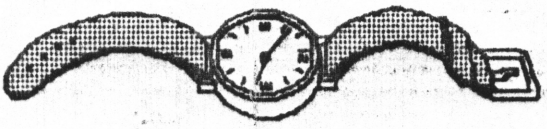
Warren was a subscriber to the "HACKER" as well as many other publications. Warren will be missed by many, but his programs will live on forever. The Hacker staff extends their condolences to the Fricke family in their time of sorrow.

LAPTOP TAKES TOP HONORS IN EUROPE

-- A panel of international computer journalists has voted the **Psion MC400 laptop PC** as **"computer of the year."** The British company walked off with the award, presented by Chip magazine of West Germany, polling the highest score of any computer in the competition.

For the tenth year running of the awards, organized by Chip magazine, trade journalists in eight countries voted for their most highly rated computers in five separate categories. In use of innovative and ground-breaking technology. The MC400 was judged to represent "**the**

most significant realisation of the truly portable computer with 60 hours life and the use of solid state disks for data storage," according to the judges.



TIMELY BITS OF NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD & OTHER PLACES

NEW FOR IBM: Mouse Systems' Hand-held Scanner -- Input device specialist Mouse Systems Corporation has developed a black-and white hand-held scanner, packaged with software to give users an easy start with the system.

The PC PageBrush/32 runs under DOS 3.1 and needs Windows 2.1 or higher, 640KB of RAM, a graphics card with VGA, EGA or VGA monitor and of course, a mouse. It has the ability to recognize up to 32 shades of grey, has a one-bit-per-pixel mode and is compatible with all major desktop publishing programs.

Resolution can be set between 100 and 400 dpi (dots per inch) and the device has a scan width of 105mm. This allows it to operate with Prodigy OCR which converts text into word processing format and has the ability to merge two scans together to form an 8-inch wide scan. La Palette is also bundled, a new color scanning and painting program for Microsoft Windows.

A color version will be announced soon, Mouse Systems said. "We do not want to be seen as just a Mouse manufacturer," Monica Kirkdale, manager of European operations for Mouse Systems said. "We provide a complete range of high quality alternative input devices and complementary software."

NEW FOR IBM: Sony-Compatible Rewritable Optical Disk -- Kurary Co. has introduced a 5 1/4-inch rewritable magneto-optical disk that is compatible with Sony's line of rewritable optical drives.

The disk is part of the company's line of "Lifetime" rewritable media, which the company says has received confirmation of its compatibility with Sony and the standards established by the American National Standards Institute and the International Standards Organization.

"More than 65 percent of the rewritable market belongs to Sony," says Tom Russell, president of Kuraray's U.S. marketing firm. "By providing an alternative media source for the industry de facto standard, Kuraray ensures availability and competitive pricing for distributors and VARs."

"One Lifetime 5 1/4-inch optical disk can store literally thousands of pages of information," Russell says. "This high capacity, coupled with the ability to erase information, makes Kuraray rewritable media the optimal storage medium for applications such as computer-aided design and multimedia production, as well as document storage and retrieval."

The disks carry a retail price of $170.

NEW FOR IBM: Corel Unveils CorelDraw 2.0 -- Corel Systems of Ottawa unveiled Release 2.0 of its CorelDraw graphics software at the Canadian Computer Show here. New special effects and expanded font capabilities are among the changes to the software.

Fiona Skelding, a product demonstrator for Corel, said the new release supports more than 150 typefaces. Corel has also added the ability to export typefaces in a variety of formats, including Adobe Type 1.

New special effects include envelope, perspective, extrude, and blend features. Users can create fish-eye lens effects, vertical arching, block letters, and fit text inside a shape.

The new release also imports full-color scanned images in TIFF format, Skelding said.

The suggested retail price is US$695 or C$835. Corel is charging US$99 or C$125 to upgrade from any previous version of CorelDraw to the new version. "We've justified (the upgrade fee) based on the number of new features," said Seana White of Corel at a Toronto press conference. The last new version of CorelDraw was 1.2.1, released in May to add support for Microsoft Windows 3.0.

NCR ANNOUNCES COURT VICTORY OVER AT&T

-- NCR has announced that Judge Frederick Smalkin, Federal District Court for the District of Maryland, has dismissed, without prejudice, an amended complaint in a lawsuit filed by AT&T against NCR and the Maryland attorney general.

The complaint by AT&T sought a declaratory judgment that the receipt of revokable proxies by AT&T for purposes of a potential shareholder vote would not make AT&T a beneficial owner of NCR shares represented by such proxies under the Maryland Business Combination Act. NCR said that, under the Maryland Business Combinations Act, a "beneficial owner" of 10 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock is precluded for at least five years from entering into any "business combination" with that corporation unless the company's board of directors approves prior to the beneficial owner becoming a 10 percent shareholder.

NCR also announced that the court did not consider AT&T's request to enter a temporary restraining order which would have barred NCR from commencing or prosecuting any litigation against AT&T in connection with a tender offer in any other court.

AT&T spokesperson John Shako stated that the Maryland decision will not deter AT&T in any way from its attempt to acquire NCR. Skalko said: "We'll just proceed to to the next step".

PROGRAM of the MONTH

This month we are printing a small program that was sent to us by everyones favorite programmer, none other than **Joan Kealy** herself.

The program is a 2K for the 2068. In her letter she states," This one may look flippant but it's serious, I got it stright from my CPA". Also are some of the screen responses that the program figures out. Thanks Joan, at this time of the year, a good chuckle is needed.

```
WHAT MORE VICES & LUXURIES WILL
COST  IN 1991

$0.28 MORE EVERY WEEK
 AND $14.56 MORE FOR THE YEAR

$0.64 MORE EVERY WK.
 AND $33.28 MORE FOR YR.

UP $0.72 PER MO. $8.64 PER YR.

AND FOR THE YUPPIES

$999.5 LUXURY TAX
 FOR A TOTAL $40994.5
 + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES

$590 LUX TAX
 FOR A TOTAL $16490
 + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES

$2500 LUX TAX
 FOR A TOTAL $127500
 + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES

$900 LUX TAX
 FOR A TOTAL $259900
 + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES

AND FOR THE WORKING POOR

MONTHLY TAX INCREASE $4
 YEARLY $48

INPUT WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD BEYOND
COMPUTING
```

```
   1 PAPER 7: CLS : REM TAX INCR
EASES based on CPA report on 199
0 Budget Act   eff. 1/1/91
   5 PRINT "WHAT MORE VICES & LU
XURIES WILL COST  IN 1991"
  10 INPUT "NUMBER OF PACKS OF C
IGARETTES   PER WEEK",C: LET W=C
*.04: LET Y=W*52: PRINT '"$";W;"
 MORE EVERY WEEK"'" AND $";Y;" M
ORE FOR THE YEAR"
  12 INPUT "NO. 6 PACKS BEER PER
 WK ";B: LET WB=B*.16: LET YB=WB
*52: PRINT '"$";WB;" MORE EVERY
WK."'" AND $";YB;" MORE FOR YR."
  15 INPUT "NO. WINE BOTTLES PER
 MONTH ";MW: LET TMW=.18*MW: LET
 YTW=12*TMW: PRINT '"UP $";TMW;"
 PER MO. $";YTW;" PER YR."
  17 PRINT '"AND FOR THE YUPPIES
"
  18 INPUT "PRICE OF LUXURY CAR(
OVER $30000) ";L1: LET LT1=.1*(L
1-30000): PRINT '"$";LT1;" LUXUR
Y TAX"'" FOR A TOTAL $";L1+LT1;'
" + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES"
  20 INPUT "PRICE OF LUXURY FUR/
JEWELRY(OVER $10000) ";L2: LET L
T2=.1*(L2-10000): PRINT '"$";LT2
;" LUX TAX"'" FOR A TOTAL $";L2+
LT2;'" + SALES TAX IN MOST STATE
S"
  22 INPUT "PRICE LUXURY BOAT(OV
ER $100000)";L3: LET LT3=.1*(L3-
100000): PRINT '"$";LT3;" LUX TA
X"'" FOR A TOTAL $";L3+LT3;'" +
SALES TAX IN MOST STATES"
  24 INPUT "PRICE OF LUXURY AIRP
LANE(OVER $250000)";L4: LET LT4=
.1*(L4-250000): PRINT '"$";LT4;"
 LUX TAX"'" FOR A TOTAL $";L4+LT
4;'" + SALES TAX IN MOST STATES"
  26 PRINT '"AND FOR THE WORKING
 POOR"
  28 INPUT "NUMBER OF GALS. OF G
ASOLINE PER WK",G: LET MG=4*G*.0
5: PRINT '"MONTHLY TAX INCREASE
$";MG;'" YEARLY $";12*MG
  30 PRINT '"INPUT WHAT YOU CAN
AFFORD BEYONDCOMPUTING": PAUSE 1
50: PAPER 0: CLS
9997 STOP
9998 CLEAR : SAVE *"LUXVIS" LINE
 1
```

The Honest Truth

by Ralph Hammer

Ho, Ho, Ho, Happy New Year and all the other to-do that goes with it. I hope that your holidays were kind to all of you. Even if it only comes once a year, it is still a good time to sit back and review the past.

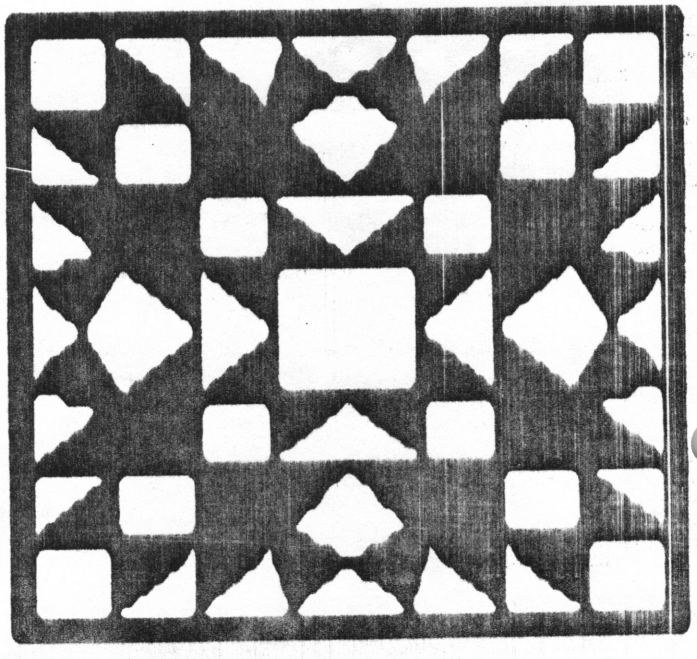
For most of us, there are a few days away from the workplace, to spend some time with our families and friends. The kids were guessing what toys that Santa would leave for them, and maybe even Mom and Dad for that matter. I still believe in Santa and the spirit o giving. To see the expressions of joy in faces young and old is neve to be completely forgotten. And the traditional Christmas Day dinner, where the food and time together is good.

The New Year sprang up on us the following week. A time to look forward into 1991, and see what is on the road ahead. The world is turning at an exceptional pace, we never know what's going to happen from one day to the next. We have all made some sort of resolution or goal for ourselves. How soon will they be broken or discarded. Most of the goals set are realistic, and when attained, we set new ones. Such is life.

The year of 1990 was not a [illegible] one for us TS'ers. A fe[illegible] sletters pick up their bags and left us. A couple of groups were disbanded, and one or two even reformed with emphasis in PC-SIG. A national magazine dropped the TS computers article, but it was soon picked up by another. And last but not least, some of us abandoned it all-together.

Not to worry. There are still quite a few of us old faithfuls still around. I know I'm not going anywhere soon. As I have mentioned before, my 2068 is dedicated to doing things that my PC can't. A few editors are still putting out real decent N/L's. And a few groups are still hanging in there.

There will be more dissappointments down the road, rest assured. Let's not make such a big deal about it....

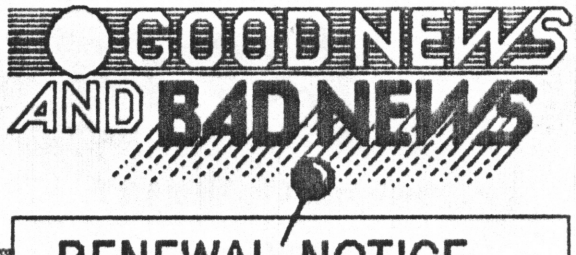


Well, There went another year and we are still hanging in. As you have already read, a lot of newsletters and clubs have gone into la-la land. Now with the threat of postage going up, I wonder if more will fall by-the-wayside I hpoe not .

Now for some good news. Back by popular demand (mine), we will have the priviedge of filling the newsletter with the words of wisdom from **John Sumpolec,** the BBS greu of Vegas. If you can remember that far back, John wrote for the "HACKER" as **SYSOP JOHN**. well starting soon ,he will be filling our pages once more with his wisdom of the phone lines.

Also we will have a guest writer (yeah!) reporting on various subjects within the computer world. Maybe we can get some more 1000, 1500 and 2068, maybe even some Z88 material squezzed into this publication now and then (I hope so).

We hope to have several program reviews in the up-coming issues. They are two of the most exciting programs I've ever seen. One is a game and the other in an add-in program. A what-in program? If you don't know what an add-in is, you will just have to read about it in the upcoming months. so if your subscription is due, renew now so you won't miss any issues. Until then.....



RENEWAL NOTICE

This notice is to remind the following people that their subscription/membership is due on the dates indicated:

R.Mikami & D. Silvestri----2/1/91
R. Curnutt & G.Hudlow-----3/1/91

Without your support, We can't function. Please renew today.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

2 NEW RELEASES FROM
> RMG ENTERPRISES <

HERE ARE 2 NEW RELEASES FROM THE WRITING TEAM OF JEAN AND BRANSON WILCOX. We hope that you will give them a try and help support our 2068 software producers!

YACHT

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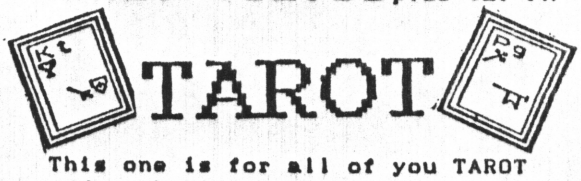
Remember the old dice poker game? Here is a great rendition of it for you to run on your 2068. Introductory priced at:
ONLY $12.95 plus $2. PH



This one is for all of you TAROT card enthusiasts. I really have not seen a better program of its type for the 2068. It is fun to get your readings done by THE AMAZING CLIVE from his TAROT cards! Also introductory priced at:
ONLY $12.95 plus $2 PH

RMG ENTERPRISES

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OREGON CITY, OR 97045

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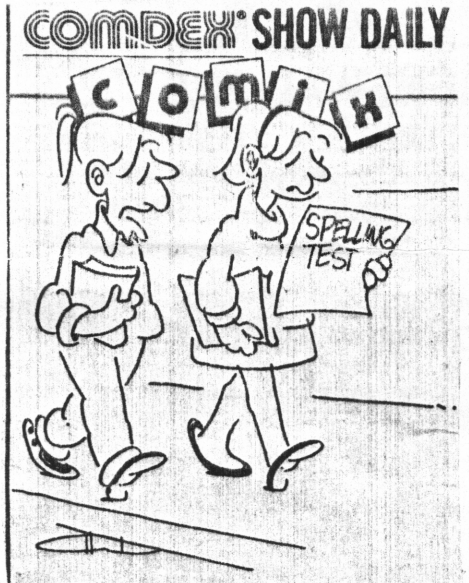
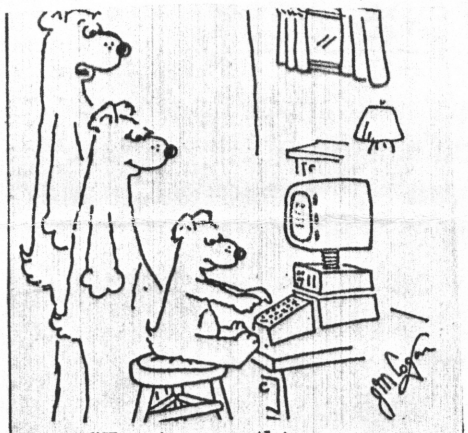
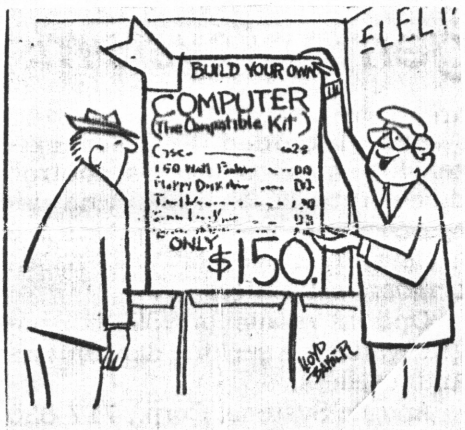
"HACKER" funnie page



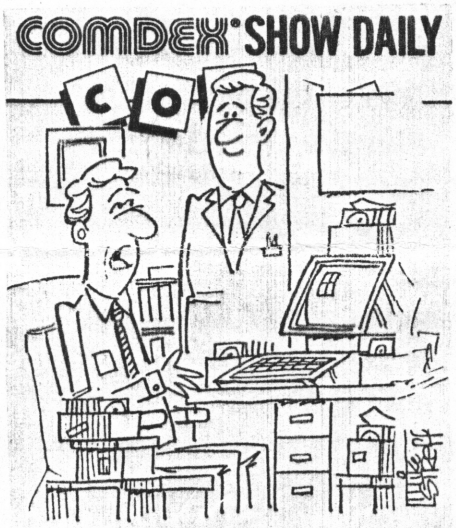
"Where is the spell check when you need it?"



"Trust me on this, son. Goldilocks is not going to be a very secure password."



"Of course the instructions come separately. They're $400!"



"We used to be buried in tons of unfiled paperwork. Now we're buried in tons of unfiled floppy disks."